



Souper Bowl of Caring

January 1– February 7

BPC Youth and the Missions Committee have once again joined the Souper Bowl of Caring, helping to gather food and monetary donations for the Buffalo Food Shelf.

2 ways you can donate:

- Drop off food and/or monetary donations at the Church Mon-Fri 9am-1pm
- Donate online (<https://www.buffalopresbyterian.org/>) and in the comment line write in Souper Bowl of Caring

Book Study



Pastor Brian will be leading a book study of Simon Peter. It will start on Sunday January 10th at 2:00pm via Zoom. If you would like to join please contact Pastor Brian.



Classes, Coffee and Conversations

These will be continuing on Sundays at 10:30 am. They will take place on Zoom. The information will be sent via email with the bulletin on Sundays.

January 3, 10, 17, 24

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*We hope you enjoy our monthly newsletter, **The New Times**.*

For comments and suggestions, please contact the BPC Office



As we begin each new year it is to be expected that Christmas is still on our minds, after all the first five days of January are the last five days of Christmas. Thus we enter each new year celebrating the birth of Christ, with Christmas decorations still up and perhaps some unwrapped gifts still under the tree. One of the central decorations in many homes is the Nativity scene depicting the various visitors Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus received.

Many of us are used to seeing the Magi in our Nativity scenes, right alongside the shepherds and their sheep. However by their inclusion we forget that the Magi and Shepherds visited the baby Jesus at different times. Matthew's Gospel puts the visitation of the Magi after Jesus' birth, most likely months, or maybe even a year later. It is for this reason that the church celebrates the visitation of the Magi on January 6th, Epiphany, after the 12 days of Christmas have passed.

The Magi were wise men who came from the east looking for the newborn King of the Jews. They followed a star that led them to Judea and eventually to Bethlehem. The Magi knew of this prophesied birth and upon seeing the star, the sign of this king's birth, they sought him out.

In Advent and Christmas we remember that Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us. We recall that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We celebrate that God came to us in the baby Jesus, not just to show us a better way to live, but to give us life, life abundant, life eternal. This celebration is for me the most beautiful part of our faith. But after Christmas comes Epiphany and the story of the Magi. The Magi who saw the star and followed, seeking out the newborn king. Epiphany is an invitation to look for the signs of God's presence in our world. Epiphany is an invitation to seek out God in our midst.

As we begin this new year we are aware of what lies before us; a continuing pandemic, but one with a vaccine, and thus an end in sight. Before us lie the ever present challenges of racism, climate change, poverty, hunger, homelessness, and so much more. Before us lie the everyday joys and challenges of life; family, friends, school, work, and much more. Before us lies the lifelong pilgrimage of faith; where we seek to be open to the transforming power of the Holy Spirit, that we might be formed in the image of Christ and together be the body of Christ in the world. In all that lies before us may we follow the example of the Magi, seeking God wherever the signs may point; be they grand or mundane, expected or unexpected.

Friends God is in our midst, let us seek after God with faith, reverence, joy, and most of all love.

-Pastor Brian



MISSIONS

ADOPT A FAMILY, coordinated by Rotary, was a great success! Mission Chair, Ash Olsen, reported that gifts were brought in on time, and the people at the drop off were very impressed by the amount given. Thank you to all who contributed to its success.

MISSION DONATIONS

A grant received earlier in the year allowed BPC to donate to The Nest and Rivers of Hope, \$1,000. each. The \$1,000 from Crafty Ladies will help support the donations Food Shelf, Love, INC, and Presbyterian Mission from the General Fund.

Total Mission support:

\$1,000 to The Nest from Grant

\$1,000 to Rivers of Hope from Grant

The following from our General Funds:

\$500 to Love, INC

\$500 to Food Shelf

\$2,000 to Presbyterian Mission

MEALS ON WHEELS will be coordinated by Chuck and Liz Klaassen. Thank you Liz and Chuck.



FOOD SHELF Our representative on the Food Shelf Board will be Eric Ellwoods, thanks to Kathy Quady for her many years of service. The Food Shelf handed out Christmas Baskets at Zion in mid-December. The Covenant Church has free produce. Also, The Food Shelf needs volunteers, and you can sign up on line on their "Volunteer Sign-Up" page of the website. You can volunteer as frequently or infrequently as you're able.

BLOOD DRIVE. The next Blood Drive is March 15, 2021, from Noon to 6:00 p.m.

CAP ARTS PROGRAM - CAP will close in January, and Session approved the remaining CAP funds (approximately \$1,300.) be donated to the Buffalo Art Guild for the purpose of providing arts classes for seniors in the community. We give a very big **THANK YOU** to **Barb Janski** for her wonderful work with this program.

KITCHEN RENOVATION GRANT - We have received a \$20,000 grant from the Presbytery, allowing us to do some needed upgrades in the kitchen. These upgrades will allow us to increase food related mission and fellowship offerings to the community. Planning will begin shortly to get the upgrades underway and plan for increasing our mission with the new facility.

Buffalo Presbyterian Church

January 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 9:30a Online Worship 10:30a Classes, Coffee, and Conversations 11:30a Children's Sunday School via Zoom	4	5 9:00a Crafty Ladies 3:15p Finance Committee Meeting 6:30p Missions Committee Meeting	6 10:00a Personnel 7:00p Book Study via Zoom 7:00p Youth Adventures with Christ	17 7:30a Women of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith	8	9 9:00a Session Retreat
10 9:30a Worship Online 10:30a Classes, Coffee, and Conversations 2:00p Book Study of Peter	11	12 9:00a Crafty Ladies	13 0:00a CAP 7:00p Book Study via Zoom 7:00p Youth Adventures with Christ	14 7:30a Women of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith	15	16
17 9:30a Worship Online 10:30a Classes, Coffee, and Conversations 11:30a Children's Sunday School via Zoom 2:00p Book Study of Peter	18 6:00p Deacons Meeting	19 9:00a Crafty Ladies 6:30p Session	20 7:00p Book Study via Zoom 7:00p Youth Adventures with Christ	21 7:30a Women of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith	22	23
24 9:30a Worship Online 10:30a Classes, Coffee, and Conversations 2:00p Book Study of Peter	25 7:00p Fellowship Committee Meeting	26 9:00a Crafty Ladies	27 7:00p Book Study via Zoom 7:00p Youth Adventures with Christ	28 7:30a Women of Faith 10:00a Women of Faith	29	30
31 9:30a Worship Online 10:30a Annual Meeting 2:00p Book Study of Peter						



Community Arts Program January 13th, 2021 10:00 – 12:00 Noon Weather Weaving Project Completion

We welcome back Charlotte Pavlik. She has participated as a CAP instructor in a variety of activities. Charlotte has a passion for creative arts, and is always excited to share her passion for creating something new, as well as to give fellow artists a sense of confidence in their own abilities.

On January 8th, 2020 Charlotte worked with a CAP group and introduced weather weaving. This art project would be done on a peg loom and would be a daily journal of the temperatures for each day of the year. This class got us started, and with a few minutes each day we would create a piece of art that will be a colorful calendar of 2020. Each temperature block, 30°-39° for example, will have a color of yarn assigned to it, we then would weave that color for that day. This project would take at least 12 different colors. It would be an enjoyable way to watch the weather.

On January 13th, 2021 Charlotte will teach us how to complete the project. **Please bring your loom, no matter what stage/month you are in, and your yarn.**



January Volunteer Schedule

Building Cleaning

January 2, 2021	Deb Anderson/Kathy Quady
January 9, 2021	Vanderheiden Family
January 16, 2021	Marlene Aldrich/Mary Coleman
January 23, 2021	Diane Ellis
January 30, 2021	Chuck & Liz Klaassen
February 6, 2021	Don & Becky Eddy

Annual Meeting

This will be at 10:30 am on January 31, 2021. Stay tuned for more information.



Since 2018, CAP has focused on connecting our church with the community.

Community members were able to participate in the many CAP opportunities that were planned. Each program had local instructors teach/demonstrate various art activities. BPC and Buffalo Art Guild, worked together in partnership during this time to find new programs and artists.

January 2021 will be the last CAP activity. The Mission committee recommended, and the Session agreed that the remaining funds in the grant be given to the Buffalo Art Guild, our partner in this grant. This money will be used by the Buffalo Art Guild to continue to offer art opportunities for seniors in our area.

Session Summary

Highlights of the November 17 stated meeting

Session focuses on the 2021 church budget

Elders spent much of the November Session meeting discussing next year's church budget. Although the pandemic has allowed the church to decrease spending in a few minor ways, there is still a need to maintain, and increase current income levels. Most of the church's expenses are in compensating personnel and in maintaining our building and grounds. Those expenditures have not decreased.

Among the Session's current goals are increased mission spending and providing raises for church employees. The church also faces a one-time expense covering a \$2,500 deductible for replacement of the hail-damaged church roof. Achieving these goals will require income increases, pledged giving, from church members and friends.

The budget was the subject of a Zoom conversation Sunday, November 22. Church members will have an opportunity to comment on the budget at a special congregational meeting on Sunday, December 13, at 10:30 am on Zoom. In the coming days, you will receive a copy of the budget to review before the meeting.

Hopefully you've already returned your 2021 pledge. But if you have not yet done so, please return it as soon as possible. Pledge information is necessary for the Session to approve a responsible budget for 2021.

Brief parking lot service on Christmas Eve is a possibility

The Session approved parking lot service on Christmas Eve. The short service, featuring the Christmas story and singing Silent Night, will depend on weather conditions. Watch for more information on Pastor Brian's weekly email updates.

To give online, please scan the QR code.



Session

*Meets monthly on the third
Tuesday at 6:30 pm*

Theresa Bevilacqua
Mary Coleman
Al DeBellis
Cindy Doth
Don Eddy
Mandy Harkess
Mary Markve-Patch
Ashton Olsen
Kathy Quady
Mike Quady
Pastor Brian Entz

Worship & Music Committee
At Large
Fellowship Committee
Education & Youth Committee
Building & Grounds Committee
Communications Committee
Finance Committee
Missions Committee
Personnel Committee
Clerk of Session
Moderator

Board of Deacons

*Meets monthly on the third
Monday at 6:00 pm*

Diane Ellis
Eric Ellwoods
Linda Shebiel
Kevin Spike
Elaine Thole
George Thole

Deacon Treasurer*

*Please note that our Church Treasurer is Del Vanderheiden.



Buffalo Presbyterian Church is a congregation in which the Word, the Spirit, and the Love of God enrich and strengthen us as individuals and families in Christ.

The purpose of this Church is to fully equip us to become disciples of Jesus Christ, obeying His commandments to love and worship God, love and care for our neighbors, and make new disciples in our community and the world.



BUFFALO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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